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Maryland Energy Administration Delivers Results for a *Smart, Green and Growing* Maryland in 2009

The O'Malley-Brown Administration has taken major steps to advance our energy future, lower electricity bills, and promote clean, renewable power. MEA did not receive any General Funds in 2009, relying instead on the proceeds from the sale of greenhouse gas allowances and federal stimulus funds.

Below are some of MEA's 2009 accomplishments to create a *Smart, Green and Growing Maryland* for our families and future generations.

For the full report, [click here](#).

MEA Working for Maryland Families:

Over 1,600 units in multi-family buildings across Maryland have been retrofitted with energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, and an additional 1,176 units in 17 buildings have been audited to identify opportunities to save energy through the Multifamily Energy Efficiency and Housing Affordability (MEEHA) program. Energy consumption will be reduced by 15-20 percent.

Over 2,500 single family homes benefited from quick energy check-ups, audits or retrofits in 2009 through a

partnership between MEA and the electric utilities. The EmPOWER Maryland Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program connects residents looking to improve the energy efficiency of their homes with certified auditors and contractors. Most Maryland utilities are now offering low cost check-ups and discounts of up to \$1,300 for full energy audits and retrofits. Energy savings typically range from 10-40 percent.



MEA Working for Maryland Businesses:

Commercial and industrial businesses are taking advantage of MEA's new energy assessment and low-interest loan program. In 2009, MEA and the Maryland Technology Extension Service provided ten energy assessments to Maryland businesses, worth \$50,000. In November, MEA offered \$5.6 million in low-interest loans under the Commercial & Industrial Energy Assessment Program to help businesses invest in energy efficiency measures that will reduce their costs for years to come.



Solar investments help Maryland businesses stay competitive. Building on the success of the residential solar program, MEA launched a new program to help Maryland businesses defray the upfront costs of larger solar photovoltaic and solar water heating investments. With \$1.45 million available, the Mid-Size Solar Commercial Grant Program provides up to \$25,000 for systems between PV systems between 20 kW and 100 kW and large solar water heating systems. MEA also announced the launch of „Project Sunburst“ with the goal of doubling the amount of solar energy produced in Maryland through a focused effort to add renewable systems

arrays to public buildings.

MEA Working for Maryland Employees

607 contractors have been trained through the Home Energy Retrofit and Weatherization Workforce Training Programs recently launched at 13 community colleges across the State. The program offers a one-stop training source for any energy retrofit career path in the state, including contractors working with local weatherization agencies and Maryland's utility providers.

MEA Working for Maryland Communities:

38 community and non-profit groups received the first EmPOWER Clean Energy Communities grants and loans in

2009. MEA competitively awarded twenty grants for investments in energy efficiency and renewable projects across the state. Projects include retrofitting senior centers, museums and ice rinks. In addition, eighteen organizations that exclusively serve low-to-moderate income Marylanders received grants or loans.



Using federal stimulus funds, MEA awarded \$9.6 million to 173 local governments to finance energy overhauls and renewable projects. Using ARRA funds, MEA is providing 13 counties and 160 localities an Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant. The grants will allow local governments to install energy efficiency and renewable energy systems on public facilities, which create green jobs, reduce costs, and improve the environment.

[The Maryland Energy Administration](http://www.energy.maryland.gov) offers a wide variety of resources, strategies and information to help you reduce your energy consumption, increase your understanding of alternative energy, and ultimately help [EmPower](#) fellow Marylanders to take control of our energy future. For more detailed information, please bookmark MEA's website: <http://www.energy.maryland.gov>

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